

NOTES ON THREE CHAUDOIR SPECIES
OF *PLATYNUS* FROM CENTRAL AMERICA
(CARABIDAE: PTEROSTICHINI: AGONI)

DONALD R. WHITEHEAD

Organization for Tropical Studies, c/o Department of Entomology,
U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560

ABSTRACT

Type-localities are restricted to GUATEMALA, Sacatepequez: Capetillo for *Platynus crossomerus* (Chaudoir); GUATEMALA, Izabal: Quirigua for *P. guatemalensis* (Chaudoir); and COSTA RICA, Puntarenas: 5-8 km. above Monteverde for *P. melanocnemis* (Chaudoir). *Platynus crossomerus* (Chaudoir 1878) is a junior name for *P. procephalus* (Bates 1878), a new synonymy.

Chaudoir (1878) named 3 species of *Colpodes* MacLeay from Guatemala and Costa Rica based on material in the Putzeys Collection of the Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique (IRSB), Brussels. Whitehead (1973) treated these names as valid species of *Platynus* Bonelli in a paper concerning type material of Mexican species of *Platynus*. A continuation of that study, this note is based on further material in IRSB and in the United States National Museum (USNM): restricted type-localities are designated, 1 of the Chaudoir names is reduced to synonymy, and 1 species is incorporated into my key to Mexican *Platynus* species (1973).

Platynus crossomerus (Chaudoir).

I compared the holotype with material of *P. procephalus* (Bates) in USNM, and found 1 male to be an essentially exact match. I here restrict the type-locality of *P. crossomerus* to GUATEMALA, Sacatepequez: Capetillo. Further, I place the name *Platynus crossomerus* (Chaudoir 1878) into synonymy with *P. procephalus* (Bates 1878), a **New Synonymy**. These specimens represent a violaceous form of *P. procephalus*, and the first alternative of couplet 66 (64') in Whitehead (1973) should be altered to read "Elytron submetallic or violaceous . . .".

Platynus guatemalensis (Chaudoir).

I here restrict the type-locality to GUATEMALA, Izabal: Quirigua, based on a female in USNM that I compared with the holotype. This form will not key beyond couplet 8 (7') in Whitehead (1973). As it does not closely resemble any known Mexican species keyed through couplet 8, I here emend that couplet as follows:

- 8(7'). Rufopiceous, unmetallic, unicolorous; tooth of mentum narrow, acute; pronotum with 2 pairs of marginal setae, lateral explanations broad, sides sinuate, hind angles nearly right, basal impressions impunctate; apex of intercoxal process of prosternum not truncate; brachypterous, metepisternum short; elytron with microsculpture isodiametric, basal and epipleural carinae joined in an arc; hind femur with 1 or more dorsoapical setae; last article of hind tarsus ciliate beneath, articles 1-4 clearly bisulcate *P. guatemalensis* (Chaudoir)
- 8'. Combination of characters not as above
 8A (=couplet 8 in Whitehead 1973).

Platynus guatemalensis is a more robust form than any Mexican species keyed through couplet 8; in pronotal form it resembles only certain undescribed forms from northeastern Mexico, but differs from them by the narrow mental tooth and non-truncate prosternum.

Platynus melanocnemis (Chaudoir).

I recently discovered Putzeys' second specimen in undetermined IRSB material, a male labelled "Costa Rica" (green) but without Chaudoir's determination label; this is a paralectotype. I here restrict the type-locality to COSTA RICA, Puntarenas: 5-8 km. above Monteverde, based on a male I collected 19-23-III-73 under stones along a small stream in montane rain forest (USNM). This specimen is smaller than Putzeys' specimens (elytral length about 6.5mm vs. 8.0mm), but otherwise is not distinguishable. Costa Rican specimens have tarsi, tibiae, and extreme apices of femora pale, in sharp contrast to dark basal parts of the legs; and both males have but 1 pair of anal setae.

REFERENCES CITED

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- CHAUDOIR, M. DE. 1878. Revision des genres *Onychopterygia*, *Dicranoncus* et *Colpodes*. Ann. Soc. Ent. France (ser. 5) 8:275-382.
- WHITEHEAD, D. R. 1973. Annotated key to *Platynus*, including *Mexisphodrus* and most "*Colpodes*", so far described from North America including Mexico (Coleoptera: Carabidae: Agonini). Quaest. Ent. 9(3):173-217.

